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Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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EXCISE

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ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IC-11 HA-05 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-07 CCO-12 NEA-00 INM-05 /106 W

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R 292120Z FEB 88
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1529

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 KINGSTON 1551

E.O. 12065: RDS-3 2/28/87 (LAWRENCE, LOREN E.) OR-M
TAGS: PINT, JM
SUBJECT: THE JAMAICAN ELECTIONS: REPORTING AND BEHAVIOR OF EMBASSY STAFF

1. S - ENTIRE TEXT.

2. SUMMARY: DURING THE PERIOD OF THE JAMAICAN ELECTION CAMPAIGN HERE (IT HAS ALREADY STARTED, INFORMALLY AT LEAST) WE WILL NEED TO DO Ó SPECIALIZED REPORTING AND ANALYSIS AND ALSO BE ON GUARD HERE AND IN WASHINGTON TO AVOID SAYING OR DOING ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE USED AGAINST US BY ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER TO EMBARRASS US. I HAVE ISSUED THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES AND INSTRUCTIONS AND REQUEST THE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE A SIMILAR STEP IN WASHINGTON, IF THEY CONCUR. END SUMMARY.

3. ALL PERSONNEL

A. TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO AVOID MAKING ANY COMMENTS OR DOING ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE MISINTERPRETED AS UNITED STATES INTERFERENCE IN THE JAMAICAN ELECTION PROCESS.

B. CLEAR ALL PUBLIC STATEMENTS, NO MATTER HOW SEEMINGLY INNOCUOUS WITH THE PAO, WHO SHOULD IN TURN CLEAR WITH THE DCM WHO WILL DECIDE WHETHER THEY NEED BE CLEARED ALSO BY THE AMBASSADOR.

C. AN EXTRAORDINARY EFFORT MUST BE MADE BY EVERYONE TO CHECK AND COUNTER CHECK INFORMATION AND MAINTAIN RIGOROUS STANDARDS OF OBJECTIVITY.

E. ICA

A. SUBTLY REINFORCE DEMOCRATIC ASPECTS OF THE ELECTORAL PROCESS BY INSERTING SUITABLE ELECTORAL THEMES IN ALL THEIR PROGRAMS.

B. TOGETHER WITH POL MONIOR PARTY STATEMENTS TO LOOK FOR ISSUES OR AREAS WHERE OUR IMAGE OR INTERESTS MAY BE DAMAGED WITH A VIEW TO RECOMMENDING POSSIBLE REPLY.

C. BE THE PRINCIPAL LINK WITH THE PRESS. IN THIS CONNECTION THE US PRESS COULD PLAY A KEY CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE IN HALTING ANY GRAVE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS DURING THE ELECTION.

D. MAKE SURE THAT NONE OF THE EQUIPMENT, FILMS, BOOKS ETC. IS USED FOR PARISAN PURPOSES.

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A. MAKE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO MONITOR POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OR DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE JAMAICAN CONSTITUTION.

B. PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO CUBAN SOVIET OR ANY OTHER FOREIGN INVOLVEMENT FOR OR AGAINST ANY PARTY OF INDIVIDUAL. THIS COULD BE IN THE FORM OF MONEY, SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT, ADVICE OR EVEN ARMS.

C. TRY TO GET ADVANCE WARNING OF ANY UNFAVORABLE OR POTENTIALLY CONTENTIOUS INTRODUCTION OF THE US IN THE CAMPAIGN.

D. MONITOR CLOSELY THE ROLE OF THE JCF AND ALL ITS BRANCHES, INCLUDING THEIR ABILITY TO DEAL WITH DISTRUBANCES AND INVOLVEMENT IN PARTISAN ACTIVITIES, AS WELL AS THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT.

5. POL

A. BE ALERT FOR AND CHECK ON SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS OR DEMOCRATIC NORMS.

4. TAKE SPECIAL CARE TO IDENTIFY AND EVALUATE THE RELATIVE STRENGTHS AND WEAKENESSES OF BOTH PARTIES ON THE BASIS OF TRADITIONAL LOYALITIES, ISSUES, CLAIMS, PERSONALITIES, ETC.

C. BE ESPECIALLY OPEN AND AVAILABLE AT HOME OR IN THE OFFICE FOR CONTACTS BY ELECTION OFFICIALS, PARTY LEADERS AND THE PRESS.

D. REMEMBER TO EXAMINE ALL CLAIMS CRITICALLY, TO GET FROM THE APPEARANCE TO THE REALITY.

E. BE ESPECIALLY CAREFUL TO AVOID BEING USED FOR PARTISAN PURPOSES FOR ANYBODY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CRB DATE 25 JUN 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 KINGSTON 1551

ECON

A. IN ADDITION TO CONTINUED ASSESSMENTS OF ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND PROSPECTS IN JAMAICA, ASSESS THE RELATIONSHIP OF THEECONOMY'S PERFORMANCE TO THE ELECTORAL PROSPECTS OF THE CONTENDING POLITICAL PARTIES.

B. AS THE POLITICAL PARITES OUTLINE THE ECONMIC PORTIONS OF THEIR CAMPAIGN PLATFORMS, BEGIN TO ASSESS THE LIKELY IMPACT OF THESE ECONMIC POLICIES ON JAMAICA'S FUTURE ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE.

7. AID

A. DO NOT LET HUMANITARIAN TYPE ASSISTANCE SUCH AS PL-480 BECOME THE VICTIM OF POLITICAL BICKERING BUT MAKE IT CLEAR TO ALL LONG ENOUGH IN ADVANCE THAT WE ARE RESPONDING TO OIRE NEEDS AND NOT SUPPORTING ANY PARTY IN POWER. (I DO NOT EXPECT THE OPPOSITION TO AGREE WITH THIS AND EXPECT THEY WILL ACCUSE US OF INTERFERRING, BUT I BELIEVE THAT IF WE ARE CAREFUL ABOUT HOW AND WHEN WE RESPOND TO SUCH NEEDS WE CAN PROVIDE REASONABLE JUSTIFICATION).

B. AS LONG AS CONDITIONS PERMIT, CONTINUE LONG PLANNED AND ON-GOING DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE WITHOUT APPRECIABLE INCREASES OR DECREASES. AT THE SAME TIME, PUBLICIZE OUR INTENTIONS, I.E., BUDGET REQUESTS AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTION AS LONG IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE.

C. WITHING SAY A THREE TO FOUR MONTH PERIOD OF THE ELECTIONS CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE WISE TO DELAY SIGNING ANY NEW AGREEMENTS, EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE.

D. USE THE EXPRESSION "AID FOR THE PEOPLE OF JAMAICA" AND DROP "AID FOR THE GOVERNMENT..." UNTIL AFTER THE ELECTIONS.

8. OAO

A. KEEP AN LAERT ON THE JDF, ITS STATE OF READINESS, ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE TWO PARTIES AND POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT IN PARTISAN ACTIVITY.

9. DEA

A. [redacted] PAY SPECIAL ATTENTION TO GANJA SHIPMENTS AND MONEY MOVEMENTS TO SEE WHETHER THEY ARE BEING USED BY EITHER PARTY AND WHETHER GANJA PLANES FROM THE UNITED STATES MAY BE BRINGING IN ARMS OR MONEY.

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